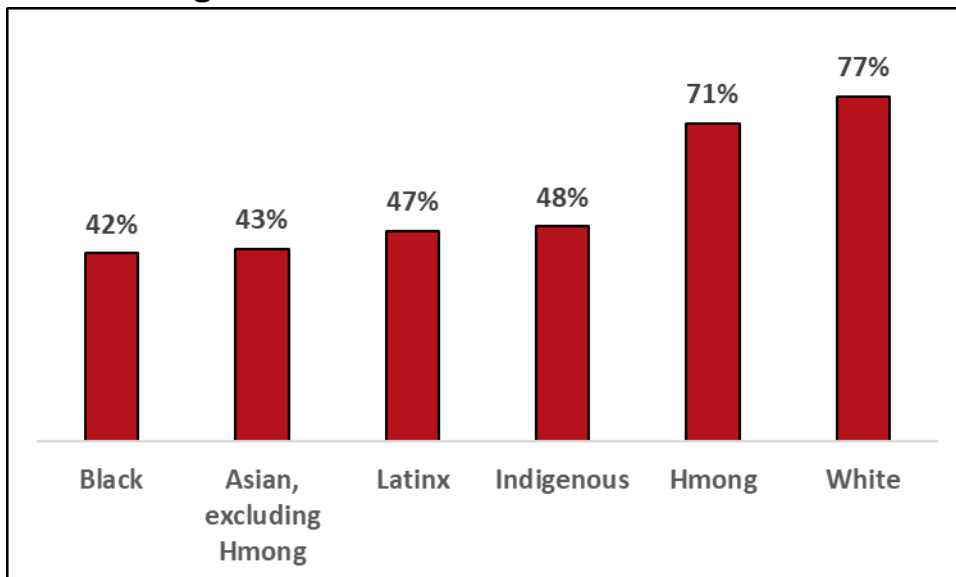


Minnesota's Diverse Communities Survey: Perceptions of inclusion

September 16, 2021

Less than half of Black, Asian (other than Hmong), Latinx, and Indigenous Minnesotans believe that the state's cultural amenities reflect their heritage well, compared to over 70% of Hmong and White Minnesotans



Question: "How well do you think Minnesota's cultural amenities reflect your heritage and culture?"
(Graph shows proportion indicating "very well" or "somewhat well.")

Source: APM Research Lab's Minnesota's Diverse Communities Survey, April 26-June 14, 2021. N = 1,532 Minnesotans age 18 or older; the maximum overall margin of error is ± 4.8 percentage points.

Key findings

Neighborhood

- Fifty-six percent of Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) Minnesotans live in a neighborhood where most of the people are of a different race than them while only 4% of White Minnesotans responded similarly.
 - Twenty-eight percent of Indigenous Minnesotans report living in an area where “hardly any” or “none” of their neighbors are of a different race than them.
- Nearly half of immigrant Minnesotans (48%) live in a neighborhood where most of their neighbors are of a different race than them compared to only 7% of non-immigrant Minnesotans.
- Four-fifths of younger adults ages 18-29 (81%) live in a neighborhood where “most” or “some” of the people living there are of a different race than them.

Access to culturally relevant food

- Eighty-four percent of White Minnesotans say it is either “very easy” or “somewhat easy” to get food in their local area that reflects their heritage compared to three-quarters each of immigrant Minnesotans and BIPOC Minnesotans.
 - Ninety-three percent of Hmong Minnesotans find it “very easy” or “somewhat easy” to access food that reflects their heritage, making them the group most likely to respond positively.
 - Indigenous Minnesotans, however, are least likely to respond positively when compared to all other racial and ethnic groups surveyed; only 57% of Indigenous Minnesotans report finding it “very easy” or “somewhat easy” to access food locally that reflects their heritage.

Parks and outdoor recreation

- A strong majority of White Minnesotans (85%) rate the parks and outdoor recreation areas near them either “excellent” or “good” compared to two-thirds of BIPOC Minnesotans (67%).
 - Hmong Minnesotans (44%) are most likely to offer a negative assessment of parks and outdoor recreation areas by rating them either “fair” or “poor,” followed by Indigenous Minnesotans (36%) and immigrant Minnesotans (35%).
- Sixty percent of both BIPOC and White Minnesotans answered that they spend their free time in the spring and summer enjoying parks and outdoor recreation areas in Minnesota at least once a week

- Sixty-three percent of immigrant Minnesotans spend free time in parks and other outdoor recreation areas at least once a week. However, 10% of immigrant Minnesotans say they never spend their free time enjoying parks and other outdoor recreation areas in the state, higher than most other groups represented in the survey.

Cultural amenities

- Seventy-four percent of White and 69% of BIPOC Minnesotans rate Minnesota’s cultural amenities—such as museums, theaters, arts and music—either “excellent” or “good.”
 - Indigenous Minnesotans (38%) are more likely than any other racial or ethnic group surveyed to rate Minnesota’s cultural amenities either “fair” or “poor.” Black Minnesotans (27%) also are more inclined to rate the state’s cultural amenities negatively.
- Immigrant Minnesotans are less inclined than non-immigrants to rate the state’s cultural amenities as either “excellent” or “good” (61% compared to 74%).
- Three-quarters of White Minnesotans (77%) think that the state’s cultural amenities reflect their heritage and culture either “very well” or “somewhat well.” About half of BIPOC Minnesotans (52%), however, think that Minnesota’s cultural amenities either reflect their culture and heritage “not very well” or “not well at all.”
 - A strong majority of Hmong Minnesotans, 71%, believe that Minnesota’s cultural amenities reflect their heritage and culture either “very well” or “somewhat well,” compared with less than half of Black, Asian (other than Hmong), Latinx, and Indigenous Minnesotans.
- One-quarter of immigrant Minnesotans say that our state’s cultural amenities reflect their culture “not well at all,” compared to 10% of children of immigrants and only 5% of non-immigrant Minnesotans.

Introduction

This report is one in a series detailing results of the Minnesota’s Diverse Communities Survey. At the core of this survey is our effort to provide as scientifically representative as possible a picture of the opinions and experiences of as many of Minnesota’s racial and ethnic groups as possible. In so doing, the survey aims to elevate the collective voices of communities that are typically underrepresented, sometimes stereotyped, and often not well understood by those who do not share their backgrounds.

SSRS of Glen Mills Pennsylvania conducted the survey April 26-June 14, 2021 using an innovative methodology that relied on targeted mailings to encourage high priority populations to complete a web-based version of the questionnaire, as well as telephone interviews, all with the goal of attaining as representative a sample as possible of various racial and ethnic groups in Minnesota.¹

This report focuses on survey questions related to inclusion in Minnesota:

1. Thinking about the people in your neighborhood, how many are of a different race than you?
 - Most of them
 - Some of them
 - Hardly any of them
 - None of them

2. Overall, how would you rate the parks and outdoor recreation areas in the area where you live?
 - Excellent
 - Good
 - Fair
 - Poor

3. In the spring and summer how often do you spend your free time in parks or other recreation areas in Minnesota?
 - More than once a week
 - About once a week
 - Once or twice a month
 - Less often
 - Never

¹ For detailed methodology, including the transparency disclosure requirements of the American Association for Public Opinion Research, please see <https://www.apmresearchlab.org/mdc-survey>.

4. Overall, how would you rate Minnesota's cultural amenities such as museums, theaters, arts, and music?
 - Excellent
 - Good
 - Fair
 - Poor

5. How often do you spend your free time taking advantage of Minnesota's cultural amenities?
 - More than once a week
 - About once a week
 - Once or twice a month
 - Less than once a month
 - A few times a year
 - Less than once a year
 - Never

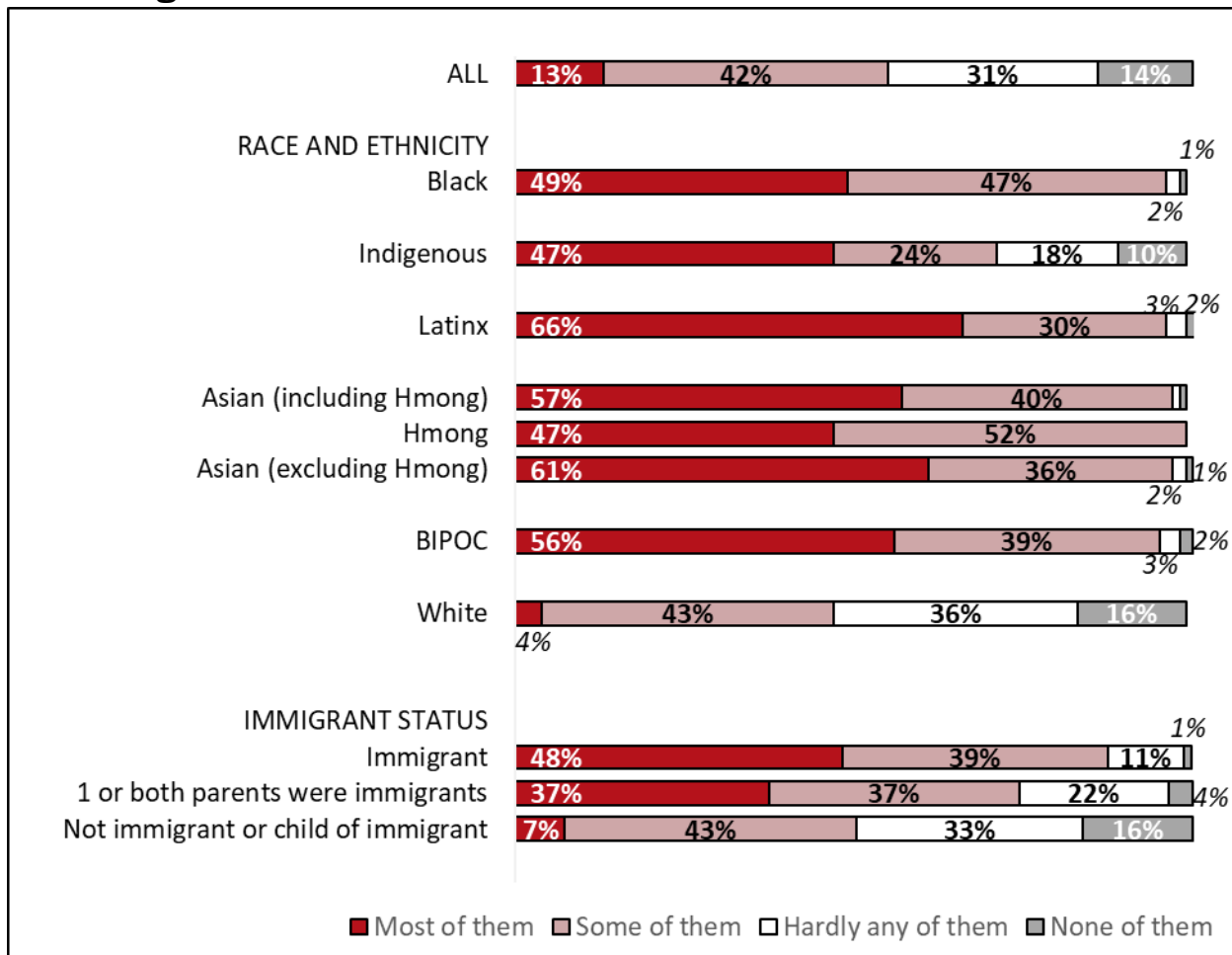
6. How well do you think Minnesota's cultural amenities reflect your heritage and culture?
 - Very well
 - Somewhat well
 - Not very well
 - Not well at all

7. How easy or difficult is it for you to get food in your local area that reflects your heritage?
 - Very easy
 - Somewhat easy
 - Somewhat difficult
 - Very difficult

Minnesotans' assessment of racial integration in their neighborhoods

Survey results show that Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) Minnesotans, and Latinx Minnesotans in particular, are much more likely than White Minnesotans to live in neighborhoods where the majority of their neighbors are of a different race than them. Fifty-six percent of BIPOC Minnesotans responded that most of the people in their neighborhood are of a different race than them while only 4% of White Minnesotans responded similarly. Within those results, Latinx Minnesotans (66%) were significantly more likely to respond this way than Black (49%), Indigenous (47%) and Hmong (47%) Minnesotans.

Graph 1:
Perceptions of neighborhood diversity; detailed results by race, ethnicity and immigrant status



Question: "Thinking about the people in your neighborhood, how many are of a different race than you?"

Source: APM Research Lab's Minnesota's Diverse Communities Survey, April 26-June 14, 2021. N = 1,532 Minnesotans age 18 or older; the maximum overall margin of error is ±4.8 percentage points.

The vast majority of White Minnesotans live in neighborhoods where they are not in the minority: 36% of White Minnesotans responded that “hardly any of [their neighbors]” are of a different race than them and 16% said “none of their neighbors” are of a different race, compared to 3% and 2% of BIPOC Minnesotans, respectively.

Note that Indigenous Minnesotans also report living in neighborhoods without much diversity, although still at a lower rate than White Minnesotans. Eighteen percent of Indigenous Minnesotans responded that “hardly any of [their neighbors]” are of a different race than them and 10% responded “none of them.” These results may be due to the number of Indigenous Minnesotans living on tribal lands.

About 4 in 10 Minnesotans, including both White and BIPOC adults, report living in neighborhoods where “some” of their neighbors have a different racial or ethnic background than themselves. And over half of Hmong Minnesotans (52%) said that they live in neighborhoods where some of their neighbors are of a different race, which was significantly higher than Indigenous (24%), Latinx (30%) and Asian, excluding Hmong, Minnesotans (36%). But, when factoring in sampling error, there was not a statistically significant difference between Hmong and Black (47%) or White Minnesotans.

A few other noteworthy patterns emerge when looking at the data as broken down by place of birth, political party or leaning, age and location of residence.

Nearly half of immigrant Minnesotans (48%) report that they live in a neighborhood where most of their neighbors are of a different race than them. By comparison, only 7% of Minnesotans who are neither an immigrant nor child of immigrants reported similarly. Roughly two-fifths each of immigrants and non-immigrants report that some of the people who live in their neighborhood are of a different race from them. But, if we combine these two responses into a broader category, nearly four-fifths of immigrant Minnesotans live in a neighborhood where either most of their neighbors or some of their neighbors are a different race than them compared to half of non-immigrant Minnesotans.

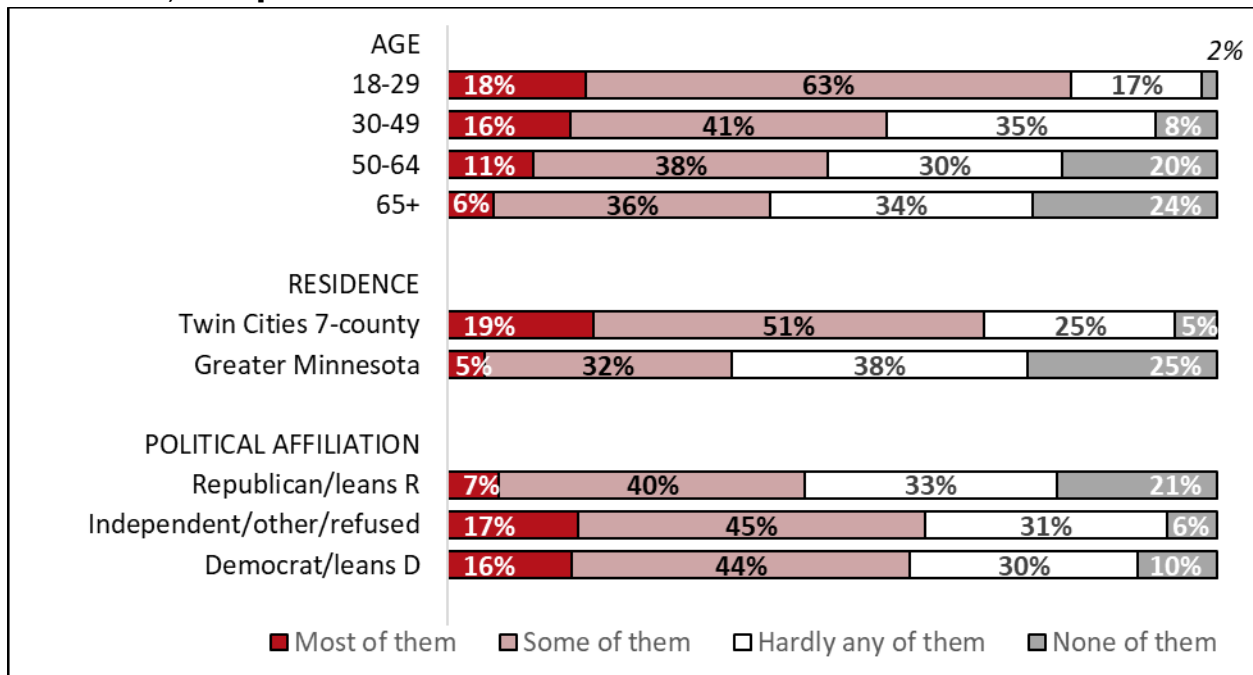
Democrats and Republicans are roughly equal in terms of the proportions who say “some” of their neighbors are a different race than them (44% and 40%, respectively) and “hardly any” of them are (30% and 33%, respectively). There is a difference, however, at the extreme ends of the spectrum. On the one hand, 16% of Democrats live in neighborhoods where most of the people are of a different race than them compared to only 7% of Republicans. On the other hand, 21% of Republicans say they live in a neighborhood where no one is a different race than them compared to 10% of Democrats.

There is a clear divide between the Twin Cities metro and Greater Minnesota in terms of neighborhood diversity. Seventy percent of those who live in the Twin Cities responded that either most or some of the people who live in their neighborhood are a different race than them compared to 37% of those in Greater Minnesota. And 63% of those in Greater Minnesota

responded that hardly any or none of their neighbors are a different race than them compared to 30% of Twin Cities residents.

Finally, it is notable that four-fifths of younger adults ages 18-29 live in a neighborhood where most or some of the people who live there are a different race than them, a much higher proportion than for any other age group.

**Graph 2:
Perceptions of neighborhood diversity; differences by age, place of residence, and political affiliation**



Question: “Thinking about the people in your neighborhood, how many are of a different race than you?”

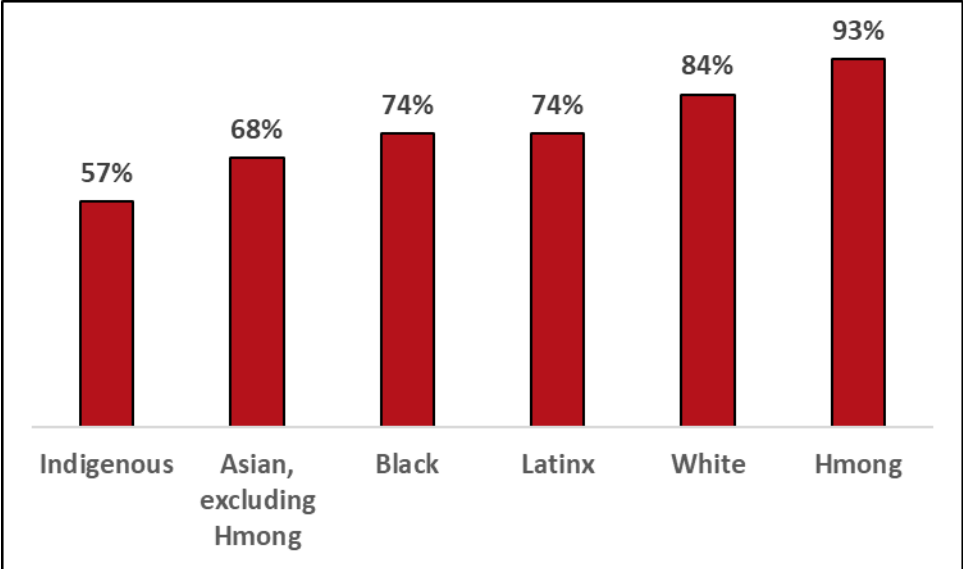
Source: APM Research Lab’s Minnesota’s Diverse Communities Survey, April 26-June 14, 2021. N = 1,532

Minnesotans age 18 or older; the maximum overall margin of error is ±4.8 percentage points.

Ease of accessing culturally relevant food

White Minnesotans (84%) are somewhat more likely than BIPOC Minnesotans (73%) to say that it is either very easy or somewhat easy to get food in their local area that reflects their heritage. However, nearly all Hmong Minnesotans (93%) answered that it is either very easy or somewhat easy to find food locally that reflects their heritage. This is the highest percentage of any racial or ethnic group surveyed. On the opposite end of the spectrum, just over half of Indigenous Minnesotans (58%) gave similar answers, making them the racial or ethnic group least likely to claim ease in accessing food that reflects their heritage.

Graph 3:
Ease of access to food reflective of one’s heritage varies by race and ethnicity



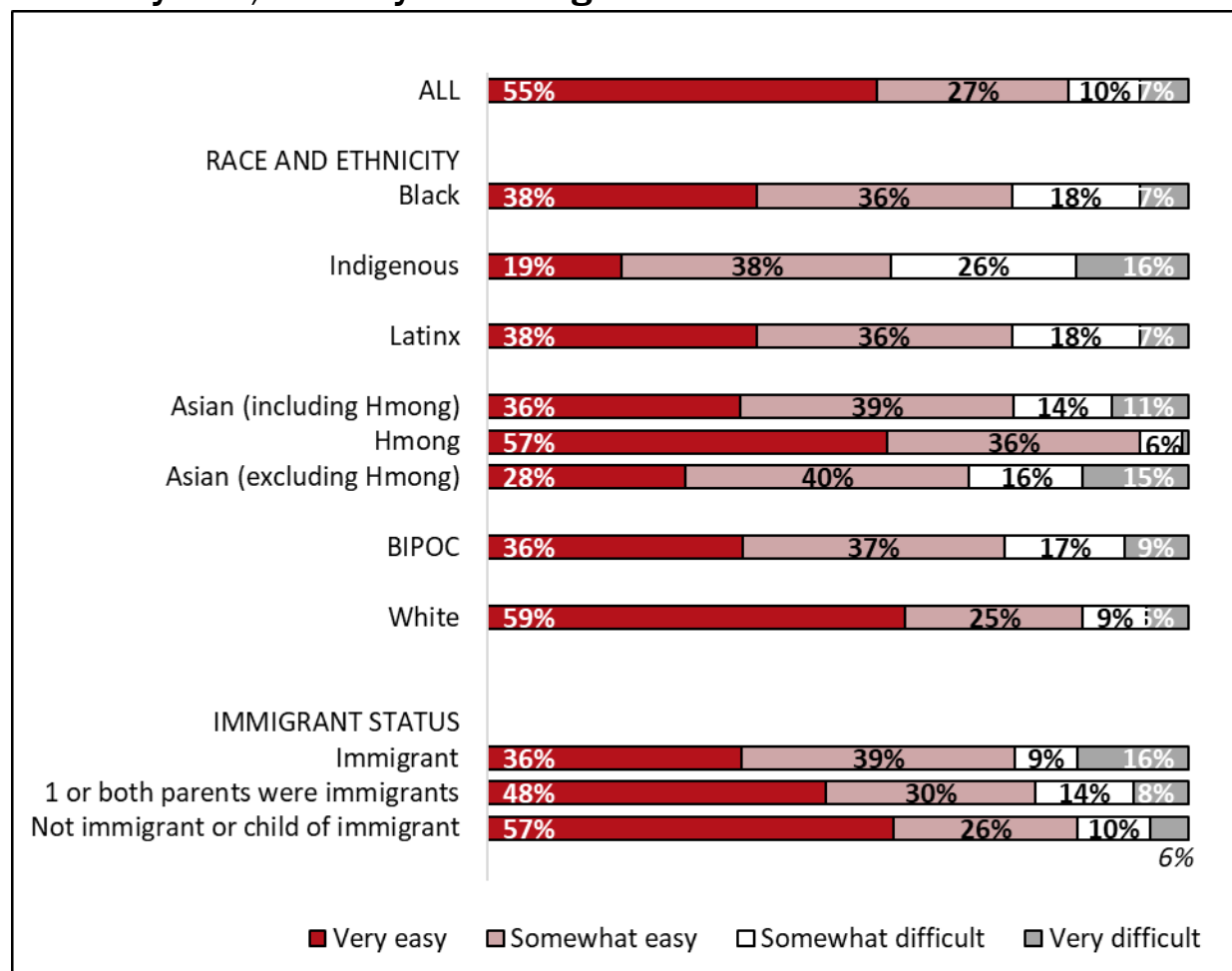
Question: “How easy or difficult is it for you to get food in your local area that reflects your heritage?”
(Graph shows proportion indicating “very easy” plus “somewhat easy.”)
Source: APM Research Lab’s Minnesota’s Diverse Communities Survey, April 26-June 14, 2021. N = 1,532 Minnesotans age 18 or older; the maximum overall margin of error is ±4.8 percentage points.

More specifically, about 3 in 5 White and Hmong Minnesotans claim it is “very easy” to access culturally appropriate food than other racial or ethnic groups. This drops to about 2 in 5 Black and Latinx Minnesotans and only 1 in 5 Indigenous adults. On the other hand, slightly more than one-third of all racial and ethnic groups, except White Minnesotans (25%), responded that it was “somewhat easy” to find food locally that reflects their heritage.

Indigenous Minnesotans (42%) had the highest percentage of those who answered that it is either “somewhat difficult” or “very difficult” to access food reflective of their heritage locally. Only 7% of Hmong and 15% of White Minnesotans expressed difficulty in finding food that

reflects their heritage. Roughly one quarter of all other racial and ethnic groups and immigrants responded similarly. Again, there are several important distinctions to note when it comes to breaking out the negative category into separate answers.

Graph 4:
Minnesotans’ local access to food that reflects their heritage; detailed results by race, ethnicity and immigrant status



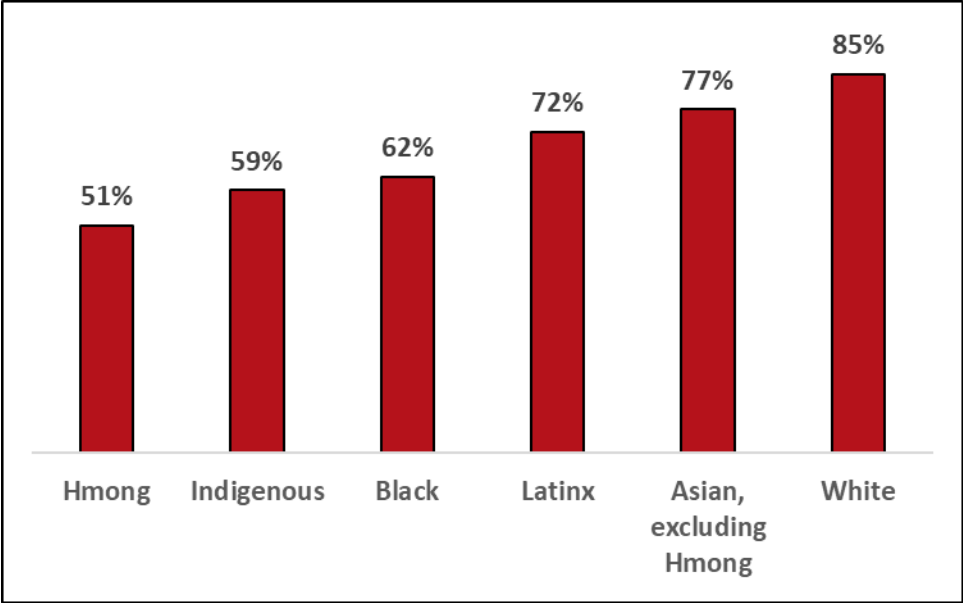
Question: “How easy or difficult is it for you to get food in your local area that reflects your heritage?”
 Source: APM Research Lab’s Minnesota’s Diverse Communities Survey, April 26-June 14, 2021. N = 1,532 Minnesotans age 18 or older; the maximum overall margin of error is ±4.8 percentage points.

Perhaps not surprisingly, access to culturally relevant food also varies by immigrant status: 36% of immigrants indicate that it is “very easy” to find food that reflects their heritage, compared to 48% of adults who are children of immigrants, and 57% of those who are not immigrants or children of immigrants.

Parks and outdoor recreation areas

Eighty-three percent of Minnesotans rate the state’s park and outdoor recreation areas as either “excellent” or “good,” including 85% of White Minnesotans and 67% of BIPOC Minnesotans (67%). Among BIPOC adults, Asians (excluding Hmong) and Latinx Minnesotans, are more inclined to rate nearby parks and outdoor recreation areas either excellent or good compared to Black, Indigenous, and especially Hmong Minnesotans.

Graph 5:
Rating of parks and other outdoor recreation areas varies by race and ethnicity



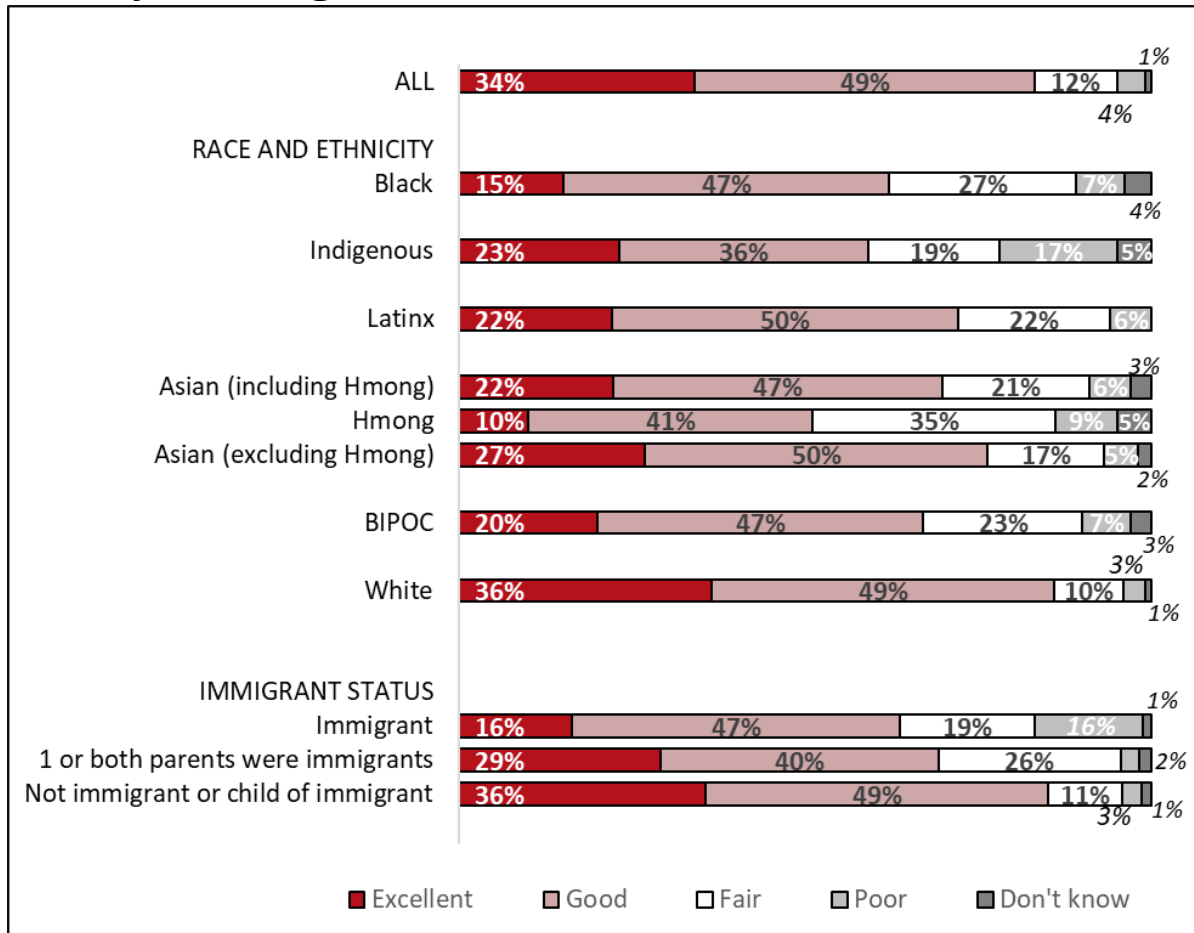
Question: “Overall, how would you rate the parks and outdoor recreation areas in the area where you live?” (Graph shows proportions indicating “excellent” plus “good.”)

Source: APM Research Lab’s Minnesota’s Diverse Communities Survey, April 26-June 14, 2021. N = 1,532 Minnesotans age 18 or older; the maximum overall margin of error is ±4.8 percentage points.

White Minnesotans (36%) are much more likely to rate nearby parks and recreation areas “excellent” compared to other racial and ethnic groups, especially Black (15%) and Hmong Minnesotans (10%), who are least likely to rate parks as excellent. Sixteen percent of immigrant Minnesotans also rate local parks and outdoor recreations “excellent.”

BIPOC Minnesotans (30%) are twice as likely as White Minnesotans (14%) to rate nearby parks and outdoor recreation areas either “fair” or “poor.” Hmong Minnesotans (44%) are most likely to offer a negative assessment of parks and outdoor recreation areas, followed by Indigenous Minnesotans (36%). Interestingly, Black women in Minnesota (46%) are far more likely than Black men (24%) to rate parks and recreation areas negatively. The same is true of Indigenous women (44%) when compared to Indigenous men (27%).

**Graph 6:
Assessment of local parks and outdoor recreation areas; detailed by race, ethnicity and immigrant status**



Question: “Overall how would you rate the parks and outdoor recreation areas in the area where you live?”

Source: APM Research Lab’s Minnesota’s Diverse Communities Survey, April 26-June 14, 2021. N = 1,532 Minnesotans age 18 or older; the maximum overall margin of error is ±4.8 percentage points.

A smaller proportion of immigrants give the parks near them positive ratings than is the case among the state’s non-immigrants. Sixteen percent of immigrant Minnesotans rate the parks and other outdoor recreation areas near them “excellent,” which is about half as many non-immigrants who give their parks this top rating.

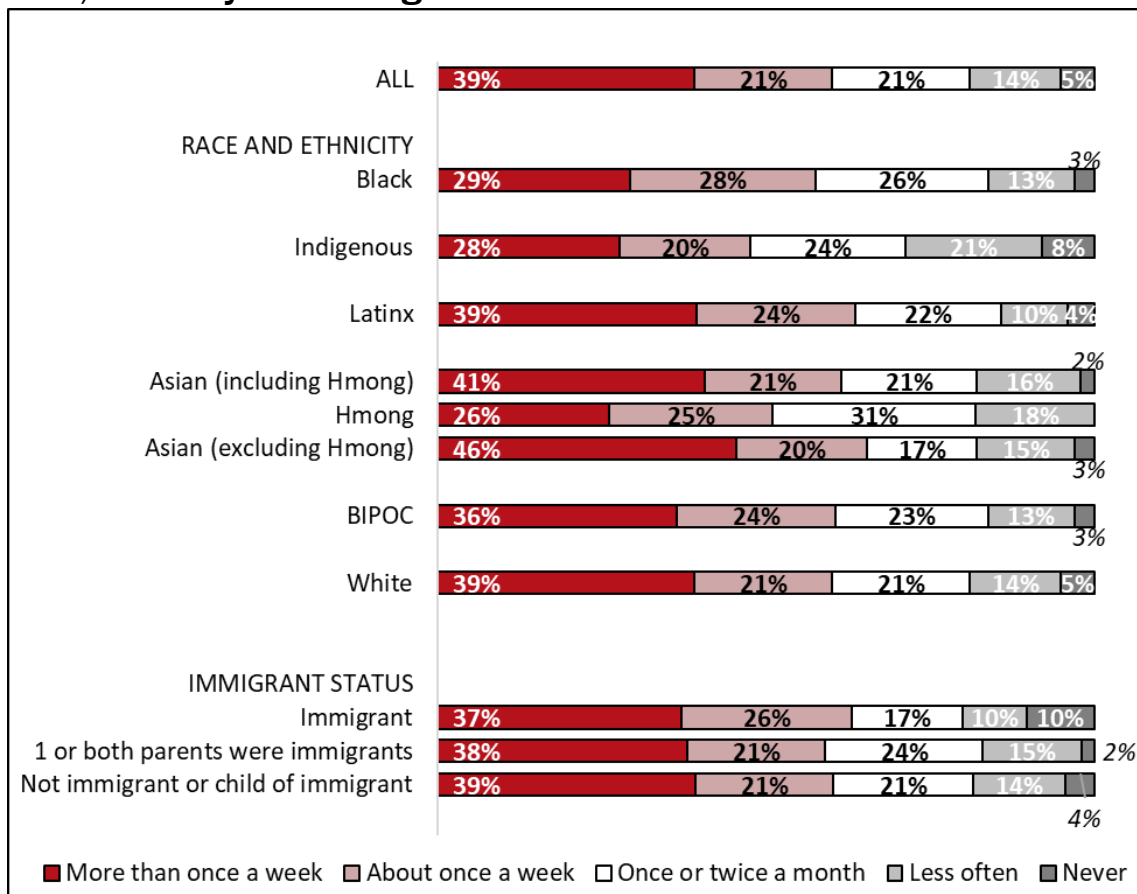
In addition to asking respondents to rate nearby parks and outdoor recreation areas, we also asked them to indicate how often they spend their free time in those areas in the spring and summer. BIPOC Minnesotans answered at similar rates to White Minnesotans. Sixty percent of both BIPOC and White Minnesotans answered that they spend their free time enjoying parks and outdoor recreation areas at least once a week (combination of those who answered, “more

than once a week” and “about once a week”). Likewise, 63% of immigrant Minnesotans spend their free time enjoying parks and outdoor recreations once a week or more.

There are, however, some slight differences in response rates. For example, Latinx (39%), Asian other than Hmong (46%) and White Minnesotans (39%) are more likely than Hmong Minnesotans (26%) to take advantage of nearby parks and recreation areas more than once a week. Similarly, a higher proportion of Asian other than Hmong (46%) and White Minnesotans (39%) than Black Minnesotans (29%) spend their free time in parks and outdoor recreation areas more than once a week.

Indigenous Minnesotans appear to be somewhat less likely to spend their free time in parks and outdoor recreation areas than other groups, with 29% recreating outdoors “less often” than once or twice a month or “never.”

Graph 7:
Usage frequency of local parks and outdoor recreation areas; detailed by race, ethnicity and immigrant status



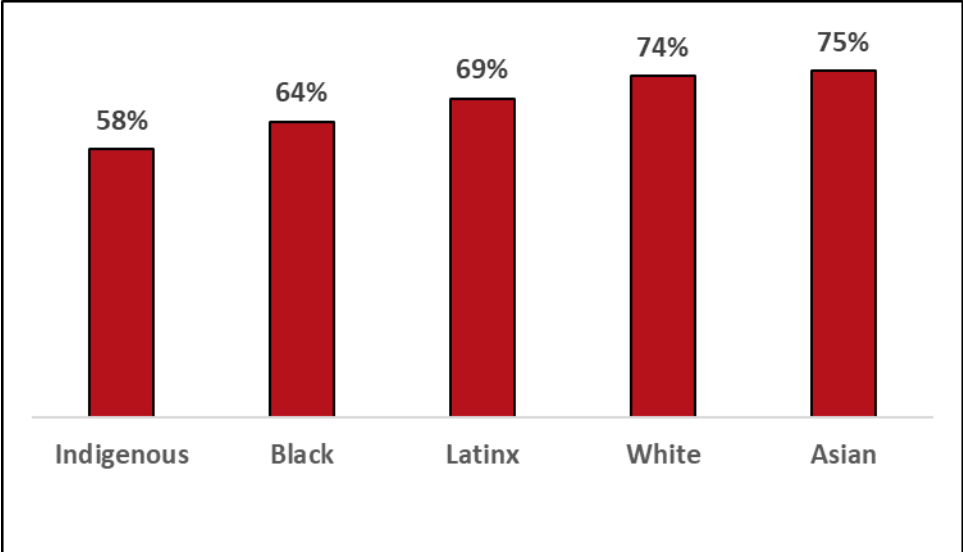
Question: “In the spring and summer how often do you spend your free time in parks or other outdoor recreation areas in Minnesota?”

Source: APM Research Lab’s Minnesota’s Diverse Communities Survey, April 26-June 14, 2021. N = 1,532 Minnesotans age 18 or older; the maximum overall margin of error is ±4.8 percentage points.

Cultural amenities

Nearly three fourths of Minnesota adults rate the states cultural amenities—including museums, theaters, arts, and music—as either “excellent” or “good.” Overall both White and BIPOC Minnesotans give the state’s cultural amenities high marks, but White Minnesotans are more likely than Black (64%) and Indigenous Minnesotans (58%) to rate the state’s cultural amenities either “excellent” or “good.”

Graph 8:
A strong majority of adults give the state’s cultural amenities positive ratings, especially White and Asian Minnesotans

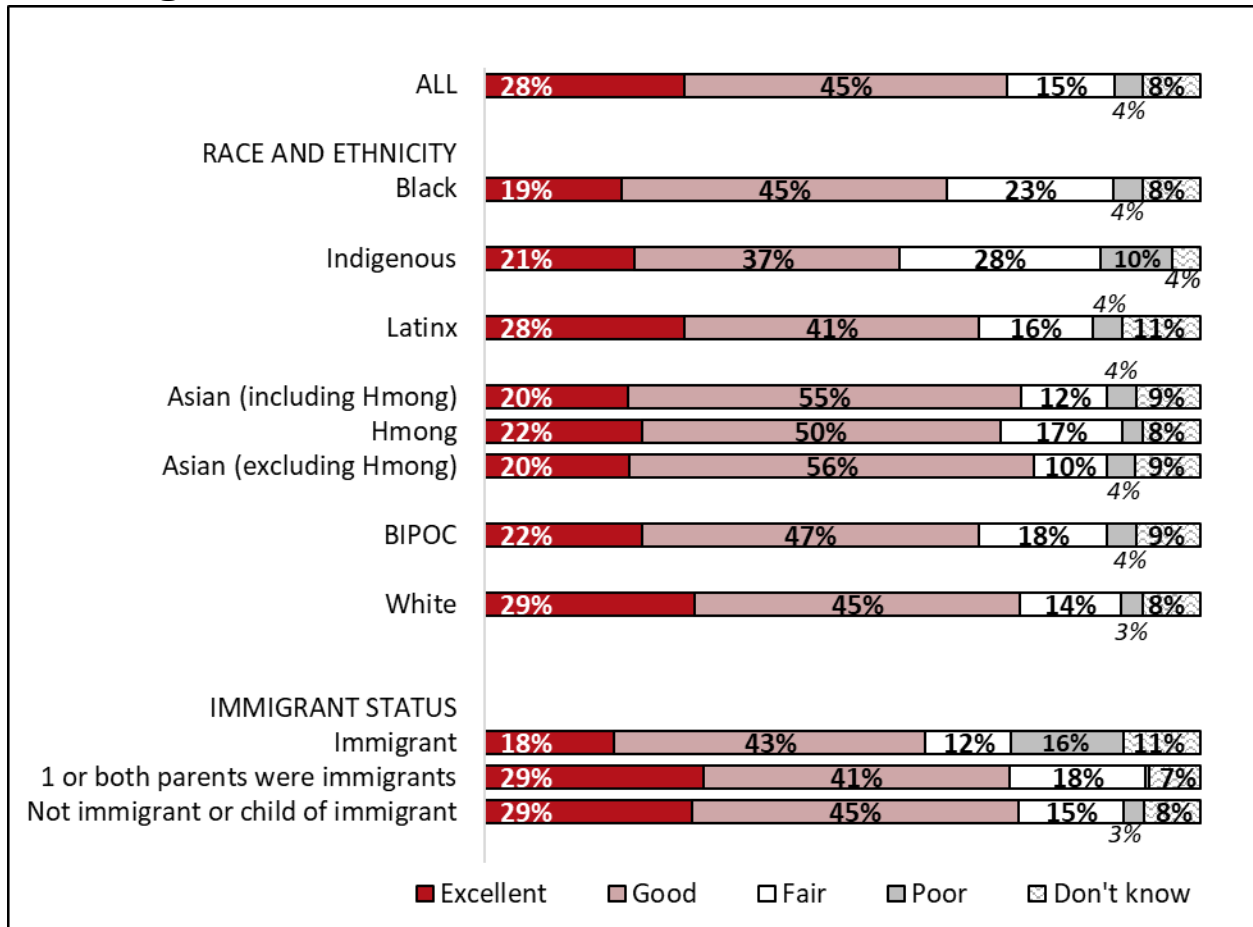


Question: “Overall, how would you rate Minnesota’s cultural amenities such as museums, theaters, arts and music?”

Source: APM Research Lab’s Minnesota’s Diverse Communities Survey, April 26-June 14, 2021. N = 1,532 Minnesotans age 18 or older; the maximum overall margin of error is ±4.8 percentage points.

White Minnesotans (29%) are more likely to rate Minnesota’s cultural amenities “excellent” compared to BIPOC Minnesotans (22%) generally, especially Indigenous (21%) and Black Minnesotans (19%). Similarly, Asian, excluding Hmong Minnesotans (56%) are more likely to rate Minnesota’s cultural amenities “good” compared to Indigenous (37%) and Latinx Minnesotans (41%).

**Graph 9:
Assessment of Minnesota’s cultural amenities; detailed by race, ethnicity
and immigrant status**



Question: “Overall, how would you rate Minnesota’s cultural amenities such as museums, theaters, arts and music?”

Source: APM Research Lab’s Minnesota’s Diverse Communities Survey, April 26-June 14, 2021. N = 1,532 Minnesotans age 18 or older; the maximum overall margin of error is ±4.8 percentage points.

Notably, Indigenous Minnesotans (39%) are more likely than any other racial or ethnic group surveyed to rate Minnesota’s cultural amenities either “fair” or “poor.” Black Minnesotans (27%) also are more inclined to rate the state’s cultural amenities negatively compared to Asian, excluding Hmong, Minnesotans (14%) and White Minnesotans (18%).

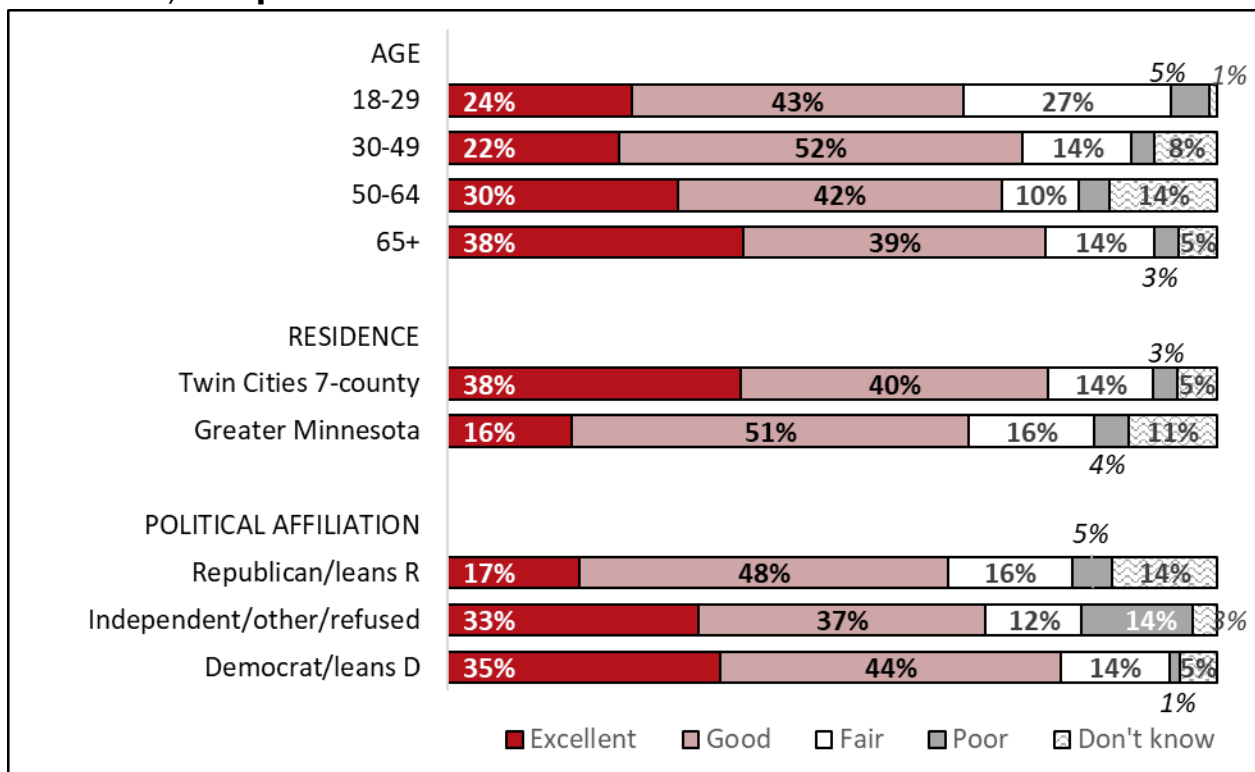
A relatively high proportion of immigrant Minnesotans, 16%, rate the state’s cultural amenities as “poor.”

Additionally, those living in the Twin Cities (78%) are somewhat more likely than those living in Greater Minnesota (67%) to rate the state’s cultural amenities positively; when taken individually, respondents living in the Twin Cities are more likely than those living in Greater

Minnesota to rate Minnesota’s cultural amenities “excellent,” whereas the opposite holds true in terms of those who rate cultural amenities “good.”

Finally, Democrats in Minnesota (79%) are more likely than Republicans (65%) to rate the state’s cultural amenities positively, although this is mostly due to a significantly higher proportion of Democrats who rate cultural amenities as “excellent.” And, nearly one-third of younger adults, ages 18-29, rate Minnesota’s cultural amenities either “fair” or “poor.”

Graph 10:
Assessment of Minnesota’s cultural amenities; differences by age, place of residence, and political affiliation



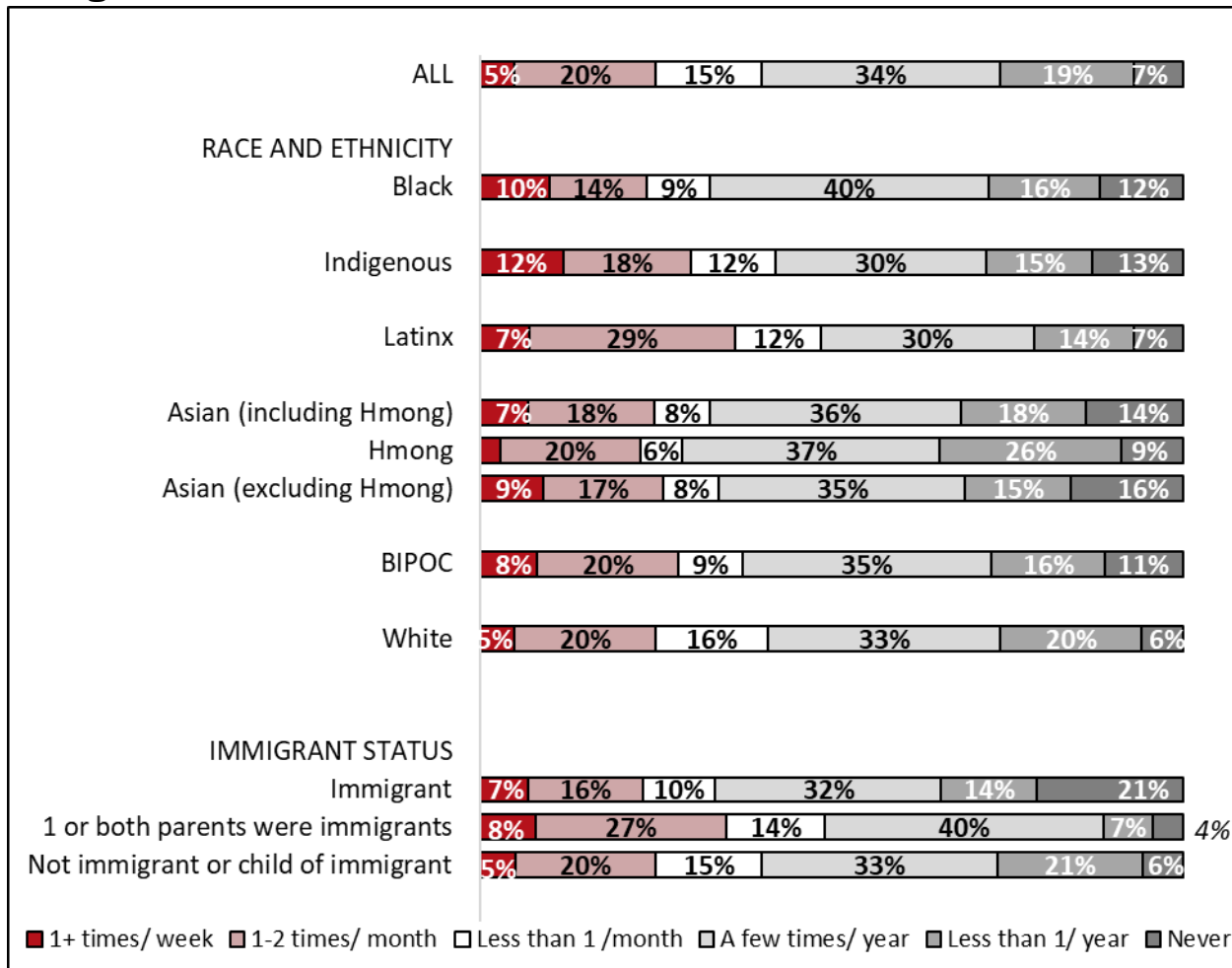
Question: “Overall, how would you rate Minnesota’s cultural amenities such as museums, theaters, arts and music?”

Source: APM Research Lab’s Minnesota’s Diverse Communities Survey, April 26-June 14, 2021. N = 1,532 Minnesotans age 18 or older; the maximum overall margin of error is ±4.8 percentage points.

We also asked Minnesotans how often they spend their free time taking advantage of Minnesota’s cultural amenities. The most common answer, representing one-third of all Minnesota adults, was “a few times per year.”

There are a few patterns to note. A somewhat higher proportion of Hmong Minnesotans (26%) take advantage of local cultural amenities “less than once a year” than is the case among Black (16%), Latinx (14%) and other Asian Minnesotans (15%). Overall, BIPOC Minnesotans (11%) are more likely than White Minnesotans (6%) to “never” take advantage of Minnesota’s cultural amenities.

Graph 11:
Usage of Minnesota’s cultural amenities; detailed by race, ethnicity and immigrant status



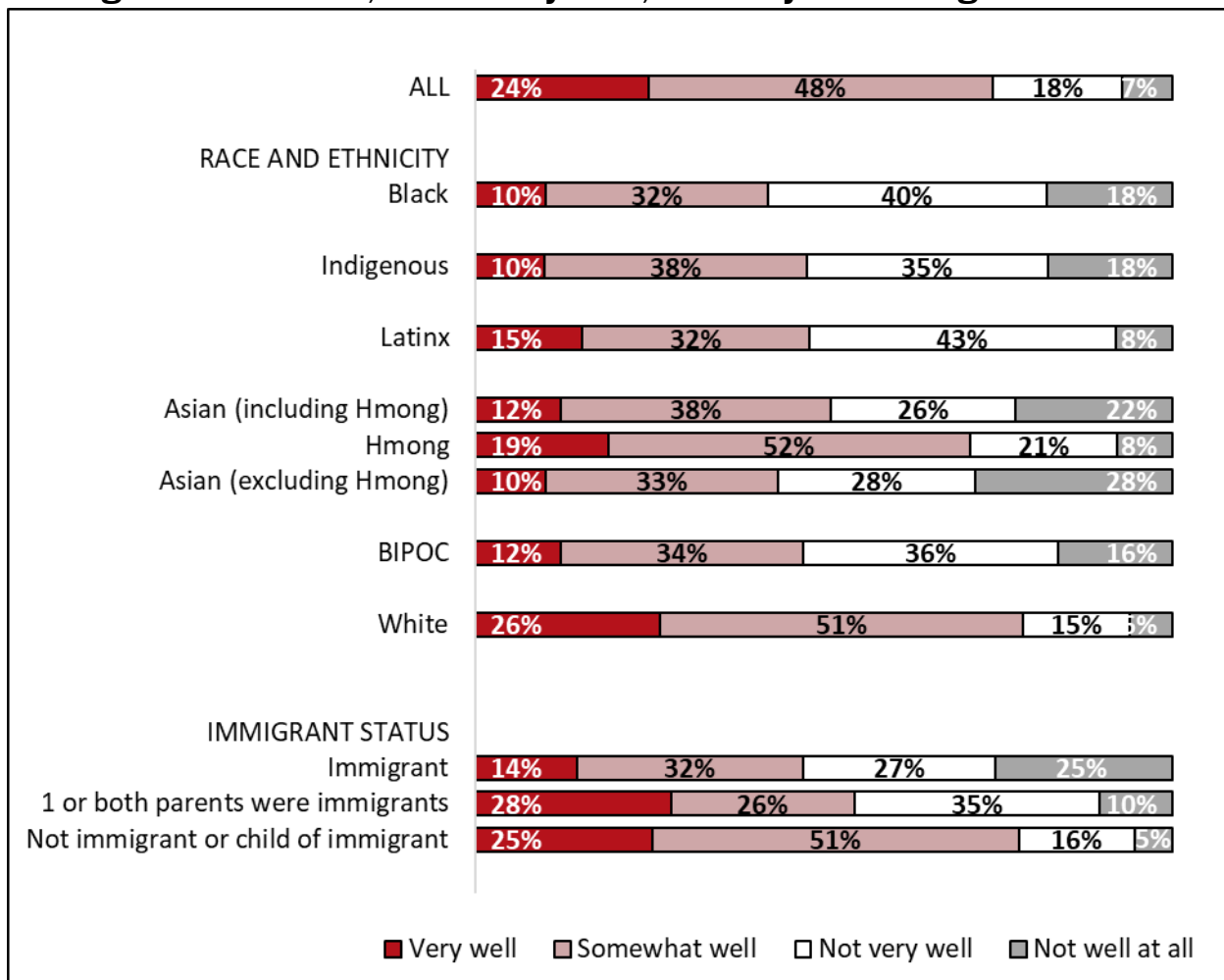
Question: “How often do you spend your free time taking advantage of Minnesota’s cultural amenities?”
 Source: APM Research Lab’s Minnesota’s Diverse Communities Survey, April 26-June 14, 2021. N = 1,532 Minnesotans age 18 or older; the maximum overall margin of error is ±4.8 percentage points.

One-fifth of immigrant Minnesotans report that they “never” take advantage of local cultural amenities, which makes them the group with the highest proportion who answered this way.

In addition to frequency of attendance, we also asked Minnesotans how well they think Minnesota’s cultural amenities reflect their heritage and culture. Three-quarters of White

Minnesotans (77%) think that the state’s cultural amenities reflect their heritage and culture either “very well” or “somewhat well.” More than half of BIPOC Minnesotans (53%), however, think that Minnesota’s cultural amenities either reflect their culture and heritage “not very well” or “not well at all,” as do immigrant Minnesotans (52%).

Graph 12:
Rating of Minnesota’s cultural amenities on ability to reflect diverse heritages and cultures; detailed by race, ethnicity and immigrant status



Question: “How well do you think Minnesota’s cultural amenities reflect your heritage and culture?”
 Source: APM Research Lab’s Minnesota’s Diverse Communities Survey, April 26-June 14, 2021. N = 1,532 Minnesotans age 18 or older; the maximum overall margin of error is ±4.8 percentage points.

Intriguingly, a strong majority of Hmong Minnesotans (71%) join White Minnesotans in believing that Minnesota’s cultural amenities reflect their heritage and culture either “very

well” or “somewhat well.” The proportion of Hmong Minnesotans who provide each type of answer remains roughly equivalent to the proportions of White Minnesotans.

Within the BIPOC category, a majority of Black (58%), Indigenous (52%), Latinx (51%) and Asian, excluding Hmong, Minnesotans (56%) provide a negative answer and, therefore, are more likely to answer negatively than Hmong Minnesotans (29%) or White Minnesotans (20%). However, Hmong Minnesotans are more likely, by a statistically significant margin, to answer negatively than White Minnesotans.

A significant proportion of Black (18%), Indigenous (18%) and Asian, excluding Hmong, Minnesotans (28%) responded that Minnesota’s cultural amenities represent their heritage “not well at all,” compared with much small proportions among Latinx (8%), Hmong (8%) and White Minnesotans (6%).

Over half of immigrant Minnesotans indicate that their heritage is not well represented by the state’s cultural amenities, including the 25% who responded “not well at all.”

Acknowledgments

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We are especially thankful to the members of the listening sessions who helped us pretest an early version of the survey, and for the 1,532 Minnesotans who participated in the survey. This activity is made possible in part by the Minnesota Legacy Amendment’s Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund, as well as funding from the Bush Foundation, and the Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation.

About the survey

SSRS of Glen Mills, Pennsylvania conducted the Minnesota Diverse Communities Survey, with data-collection occurring from April 26 to June 14, 2021 among a sample of N=1,532 Minnesota adults. The overall design effect for the study was 3.68, with a margin of error of +/- 4.8 percentage points.

Group	Completes (unweighted)	DEFF	Margin of error
Black	278	1.92	± 8.1 percentage points
Indigenous	170	1.75	± 9.9 percentage points
Latinx	185	1.63	± 9.2 percentage points
Hmong	252	1.68	± 8 percentage points
Asian (except Hmong)	145	1.92	± 11.3 percentage points
White	502	1.66	± 5.6 percentage points
Overall	1,532	3.68	± 4.8 percentage points

In the analysis the responses are weighted to more accurately reflect Minnesota’s population. For additional details about the sample and survey methodology, as well as transparency disclosures relevant to the American Association of Public Opinion, the Roper Center and CNN, please see: <https://www.apmresearchlab.org/mdc-survey>.

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